

**Climate Change Action Plan Task Force
Second Meeting – Stonyfield Farm
March 10, 2008**

Residential, Commercial & Municipal (RCI) Working Group Update

Facilitators: Michele Andy (michele.andy@des.nh.gov or 271-6793); Tom Franks (tom.franks@nh.gov or 271-1759)

RCI Working Group's Purpose

The RCI Working Group is charged with choosing the actions that will enable the State of NH to achieve the greatest feasible reductions in carbon dioxide equivalent (CO₂e) emissions resulting from commercial and residential activities, and commercial, industrial and municipal (CIM) processes. The resulting strategies will target building heating systems, maximized efficiency in new construction and existing buildings, maximized efficiency in CIM processes, efficient energy management practices and education initiatives. The RCI Working Group will also address specific issues related to demand side power management.

Key Issues

Based on discussions during 4 conference calls and one meeting, the RCI Working Group has identified 4 main goals to achieve CO₂e emissions reductions (See *High Interest Goals* below). For each goal, potential initiatives and resources have been identified. Due to the variety of subject areas that the RCI Working Group must address, the working group has been divided into 4 subgroups to discuss and develop action items related to each goal.

High Interest Goals and Actions

The 4 goals and related action items identified by the RCI Working Group are (not in any particular order of interest):

Goal 1: Maximize Efficiency in New Construction and Existing Buildings

Purpose:

To ensure to the extent economically feasible that: 1.) all new construction, including residential, commercial, industrial, and governmental is built to minimize or eliminate net CO₂e output in both embedded materials and operation and 2.) all existing conditioned buildings are retrofitted to minimize or eliminate net CO₂e output through their operation, and further to ensure that current and future capital investments minimize embedded CO₂e output.

Action Items:

- Maximize efficiency in new construction (RCI1.2)
- Maximize efficiency in existing buildings (RCI 1.2)
- Upgrade energy codes and increase compliance (RCI 2.1 & 2.1.2)
- Establish an energy properties section in MLS listings (RCI 2.2)
- Establish a comprehensive energy efficiency and renewable energy education and demonstration center (RCI 2.3.2)

Goal 2: Maximize Efficiency in Commercial, Industrial and Municipal (CIM) Processes

Purpose:

To ensure to the extent economically feasible that CIM processes minimize or eliminate net CO₂e output.

Action Items:

- Maximize efficiency in CIM processes through incentive programs to install premium efficiency equipment
- Maximize efficiency in CIM processes through incentive programs to promote light harvesting and waste heat recycling (RCI 4.5)
- Mandatory CO₂ Reporting (RCI 4.1)

Goal 3: Install Renewable Thermal Systems and Low CO₂e Thermal Systems

Purpose:

To replace to the extent economically feasible, fossil fuel based space and water conditioning systems with systems powered by renewable energy or low CO₂e systems (including but not limited to combined heat and power systems) in both new and existing applications.

Action Items:

- Thermal Renewable Portfolio Standard (RCI 1.1)
- Thermal Systems Benefits Charge (RCI 1.2.1)

Goal 4: Education/Behavioral Changes

Purpose:

To ensure to the extent economically feasible that the maximum potential of net CO₂e output reductions are achieved through behavioral change.

Action Items:

- Energy efficiency and conservation in school curriculum (RCI 3.3.2)
- Residential behavior change program (RCI 3.3)
- Building management education program (RCI 3.1)

Low Interest Options

At this point, the RCI Working Group has no low interest options.

Working Group Needs

The following needs have been identified by the RCI Working Group:

1. Identification by the Task Force of overall goals for the New Hampshire Climate Change Action Plan; and
2. Baseline energy/CO₂e emissions data

Next Steps

The RCI Working Group will continue to work on identifying and developing action items related to each of the 4 goals. As these action items are identified, they will be forwarded to Carbon Solutions New England for further analysis.